

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 03591 231005Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0037

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 3591

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PL, YO

SUBJECT: IKARDELJ, GIEREK VISITS

REF: WARSAW 4200

1. THE BELGRADE RUMOR CIRCUIT HAS TRIED TO MAKE SOME CONNECTION BETWEEN THESE TWO TRIPS AND A POSSIBLE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES, INCLUDING A VERSION OF THE REPORT IN THE JULY 20-26 EDITION OF THE ECONOMIST THAT GIEREK CAME TO YUGOSLAVIA TO ENLIST TITO'S AID IN PRESSURING CEAUCESCU TO BE MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE SOVIETS ON THE CONFERENCE. WE KNOW OF NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THESE RUMORS.

2. AS FOR KARDELJ'S VISIT TO POLAND, THIS APPEARS TO BE

IN THE FRAMEWORK OF A SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED TRAVEL SCHEDULE BEING UNDERTAKEN BY KARDELJ, PERHAPS TO BURNISH HIS FOREIGN POLICY CREDENTIALS NOW THAT HE IS ON THE EIGHT-MAN (PLUS TITO) FEDERAL PRESIDENCY. HIS RECENT TRIP TO EGYPT WAS IN THE GUISE, AND HE WAS TREATED WITH ALL THE
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 03591 231005Z

HONORS ACCORDED A PREMIER. WE HAVE HAD INDICATION THAT

KARDELJ ALSO WILL BE TRAVELING TO OTHER EE COUNTIES AND POSSIBLY THE SOVIET UNION IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. WE HAVE NO BASIS ON WHICH TO SPECULATE ON THE IMPORT OF GIEREK'S VISIT HERE, EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT THE TELEVISION AND PRESS PICTURES OF HIS MEETING WITH TITO CONFIRMED THAT GIEREK'S FAMILY WAS PRESENT, AND DID NOT PORTRAY A PARTICULARLY BUSINESSLIKE ATMOSPHERE.
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